

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 CU-05 ACDA-19 TRSE-00 SAM-01 DRC-01

AF-10 NEA-14 /166 W

----- 002582

R 131056Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO USMISSION GENEVA

SECSTATE WASHDC 5772

INFO ALL CSCE CAPS 0001

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, 0-4., MT

SUBJ: CSCE: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

REF: GENEVA 5745

1. GOM HAS INFORMED EMBASSY VALLETTA THAT MALTESE DELEGATION GENEVA HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PRESENT A PROPOSAL TO CSCE ON CONFIDENCEBUILDING MEASURES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA.

2. PROPOSAL, IN GENERAL, STATES THAT LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED WHICH WOULD IMPROVE THE SECURITY OF SMALL, UNARMED STATES IN THE EUROPEAN AND MEDITERREANEAN AREAS (E.G., MALTA). FURTHERMORE, RIVALRY BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER-POWERS (THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION) IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REQUIRES A BUFFER BETWEEN THEM.

3. THEREFORE, A NEW INDEPENDENT BODY SHOULD BE CREATED TO PLAY THE ROLE OF BUFFER. GOM SUGGESTS THAT THIS BODY MIGHT CONSIST OF A "EURO-ARAB FEDERATION, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ALSO ALL THE OTHER TATES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, IRAN AND THE GULF STATES."

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4. PROPOSAL CONCLUDES THAT PARI PASSU WITH THE GROWTH OF THIS EURO-ARAB BODY, THE U.S. AND THE SOVIET UNION SHOULD GRADUALLY WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES FROM THE REGION.

5. COMMENT: BRIEFING ON MALTESE PROPOSAL WAS GIVEN CHARGE BY GOM AMBASSADOR ATTARD-KINGSWELL, WHO EMPHASIZED SERIOUSNESS OF MALTESE CONCERN OVER SECURITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE CYPRUS CRISIS. PROPOSAL CLEARLY REFLECTS MINTOFF'S THINKING, INCLUDING HIS POLICY OF EXCLUDING BOTH THE U.S. SIXTH FLEET AND THE SOVIET FLEET FROM MALTA. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE U.S. MISSION GENVA REPORTING CSCE REACTION TO MALTESE PROPOSAL WHEN PRESENTED. WIGGINS

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